

# Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

2000 Marietta (S.E. 25th) Avenue

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316

[info@stsebastianfl.org](mailto:info@stsebastianfl.org)

## Saint Sebastian Church

Parish Office (954) 524-9344  
Fax (954) 524-9347



### MASSES

Saturday 5 pm  
(Sunday Vigil)

Sunday 8:30 & 11 am

Weekdays 8:30 am  
(Mon. through Fri.)

Holy Days  
(Schedule varies)

### PARISH STAFF

Rev. Ernest Biriruka  
*Pastor*

Miss Anne M. Gardner  
*Pastoral Assistant*

Ms. Judy Fisher  
*Office Assistant*

Mr. Peter J. Manfredi, Jr.  
*Director of Music*  
(954) 868-6137

Mr. Patricio Diaz-Pizarro  
*Maintenance*

### PASTORAL COUNCIL

Nancy Adams  
Elizabeth Calhoun  
Judy Fisher  
Rosemary Guerin  
Frank Krauser  
Richard Page  
Connie Reed  
Chuck Wobby

### PARISH WEBSITE:

[stsebastianfl.org](http://stsebastianfl.org)

### THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

is arranged by appointment. Please call the office.

### THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

(Confession) 4:00-4:45 pm on Saturday, or by appointment.

**THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK** Please call the office as soon as anyone is seriously ill.

**THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY** Please call the office at least six months in advance of the proposed wedding date.

**PARISH REGISTRATION** We invite anyone wishing to register in our Parish to visit or call the Parish Office, or stop by the Welcome table when you come for Sunday Mass to complete a census card and learn more about our Parish



## Mission Statement

We, the family of St. Sebastian Parish, are a stewardship parish, sharing God's Gifts. We are the hands and feet of Christ on Earth. In union with the Universal Roman Catholic Church, we endeavor to become a prayerful and unified community deeply committed to Jesus Christ, and loving service in His name. We hope to be a welcoming, caring and friendly Parish Family, wherein the gifts and talents of all - young and old - are recognized, nurtured and used to build the Kingdom of God in the world.

# From the desk of our Pastor, Father Ernest

## ***The institution of the Eucharist***

10. This leads us to reflect on the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper. It took place within a ritual meal commemorating the foundational event of the people of Israel: their deliverance from slavery in Egypt. This ritual meal, which called for the sacrifice of lambs (cf. *Ex* 12:1-28, 43-51), was a remembrance of the past, but at the same time a prophetic remembrance, the proclamation of a deliverance yet to come. The people had come to realize that their earlier liberation was not definitive, for their history continued to be marked by slavery and sin. The remembrance of their ancient liberation thus expanded to the invocation and expectation of a yet more profound, radical, universal and definitive salvation. This is the context in which Jesus introduces the newness of his gift. In the prayer of praise, the *Berakah*, he does not simply thank the Father for the great events of past history, but also for his own "exaltation." In instituting the sacrament of the Eucharist, Jesus anticipates and makes present the sacrifice of the Cross and the victory of the resurrection. At the same time, he reveals that he himself is the *true* sacrificial lamb, destined in the Father's plan from the foundation of the world, as we read in *The First Letter of Peter* (cf. 1:18-20). By placing his gift in this context, Jesus shows the salvific meaning of his death and resurrection, a mystery which renews history and the whole cosmos. The institution of the Eucharist demonstrates how Jesus' death, for all its violence and absurdity, became in him a supreme act of love and mankind's definitive deliverance from evil.

## ***Figura transit in veritatem***

11. Jesus thus brings his own radical *novum* to the ancient Hebrew sacrificial meal. For us Christians, that meal no longer need be repeated. As the Church Fathers rightly say, *figura transit in veritatem*: the foreshadowing has given way to the truth itself. The ancient rite has been brought to fulfilment and definitively surpassed by the loving gift of the incarnate Son of God. The food of truth, Christ sacrificed for our sake, *dat figuris terminum*. By his command to "do this in remembrance of me" (*Lk* 22:19; *1 Cor* 11:25), he asks us to respond to his gift and to make it sacramentally present. In these words the Lord expresses, as it were, his expectation that the Church, born of his sacrifice, will receive this gift, developing under the guidance of the Holy Spirit the liturgical form of the sacrament. The remembrance of his perfect gift consists not in the mere repetition of the Last Supper, but in the Eucharist itself, that is, in the radical newness of Christian worship. In this way, Jesus left us the task of entering into his "hour." "The Eucharist draws us into Jesus' act of self-oblation. More than just statically receiving the incarnate *Logos*, we enter into the very dynamic of his self-giving." Jesus "draws us into himself." The substantial conversion of bread and wine into his body and blood introduces within creation the principle of a radical change, a sort of "nuclear fission," to use an image familiar to us today, which penetrates to the heart of all being, a change meant to set off a process which transforms reality, a process leading ultimately to the transfiguration of the entire world, to the point where God will be all in all (cf. *1 Cor* 15:28).

## **The Holy Spirit and the Eucharist**

### ***Jesus and the Holy Spirit***

12. With his word and with the elements of bread and wine, the Lord himself has given us the essentials of this new worship. The Church, his Bride, is called to celebrate the eucharistic banquet daily in his memory. She thus makes the redeeming sacrifice of her Bridegroom a part of human history and makes it sacramentally present in every culture. This great mystery is celebrated in the liturgical forms which the Church, guided by the Holy Spirit, develops in time and space. We need a renewed awareness of the decisive role played by the Holy Spirit in the evolution of the liturgical form and the deepening understanding of the sacred mysteries. The Paraclete, Christ's first gift to those who believe, already at work in Creation (cf. *Gen* 1:2), is fully present throughout the life of the incarnate Word: Jesus Christ is conceived by the Virgin Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit (cf. *Mt* 1:18; *Lk* 1:35); at the beginning of his public mission, on the banks of the Jordan, he sees the Spirit descend upon him in the form of a dove (cf. *Mt* 3:16 and parallels); he acts, speaks and rejoices in the Spirit (cf. *Lk* 10:21), and he can offer himself in the Spirit (cf. *Heb* 9:14). In the so-called "farewell discourse" reported by John, Jesus clearly relates the gift of his life in the paschal mystery to the gift of the Spirit to his own (cf. *Jn* 16:7). Once risen, bearing in his flesh the signs of the passion, he can pour out the Spirit upon them (cf. *Jn* 20:22), making them sharers in his own mission (cf. *Jn* 20:21). The Spirit would then teach the disciples all things and bring to their remembrance all that Christ had said (cf. *Jn* 14:26), since it falls to him, as the Spirit of truth (cf. *Jn* 15:26), to guide the disciples into all truth (cf. *Jn* 16:13). In the account in *Acts*, the Spirit descends on the Apostles gathered in prayer with Mary on the day of Pentecost (cf. 2:1-4) and stirs them to undertake the mission of proclaiming the Good News to all peoples. Thus it is through the working of the Spirit that Christ himself continues to be present and active in his Church, starting with her vital centre which is the Eucharist.



Mass Intentions

SAVE THE DATE!

Table with columns for day, time, and intention. Includes dates from September 23 to October 1.

Weekend of September 23-24 - St. Vincent de Paul truck here this weekend. Wednesday, October 4 - 5:30 p.m. Blessing of Animals Saturday, October 7 - 5:30 pm - 65th Anniversary of the Archdiocese of Miami Mass, Cathedral of St. Mary, Miami Saturday, November 11 - 6:30 pm - Archdiocese of Miami 65th Anniversary Gala & Concert, Miami Beach Convention Center Friday, November 17 - 7:00 pm Social Dancing, Instruction and practice

“He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.” (Psalm 146:7) We must follow in Jesus’ example by our weekly contributions of non-perishable food and hygiene items. To care is to share. PLEASE REMEMBER: The Pantry needs plastic grocery bags for food distribution and empty, clean (6 or 12) egg cartons. You can place these items in the shopping carts. Thank you! If you know of anyone in need, please let them know that The St. Vincent DePaul Society conducts a drive thru grocery distribution every Friday from 1:30-3:45 PM at Blessed Sacrament Church, 1701 E Oakland Park Blvd (entrance to the parking lot is located on NE 33rd Street and will be closed at 3:15). First timers must provide proof of Broward County residency.



REMEMBER THE SICK

Mary Lou Mann, Suzanne Plum, Don Loughran, Jr., Sandy Rodrigues, John

Harris, Stephen Black, Mary Alice Zittle, Alvaro Arevalo, Paul Ristow, Matt Keyzers, Judy Flood, Sister Frances Voss, O.S.C., Tom Casey, Charles Benoit, Rob Messerschmidt, Mary Pat Connolly, Anne McCormick, Patricia Moss, Patty Marma, Diane Johnson, Jim Guerin, Susan Lochrie, Agnes McCauley, Teri Beth Gooch, Mary Luet Remeyer, Ray Wicklander

BIBLE SHARING

Come for coffee and Scripture Sharing each Thursday in the Parish Hall at 9:15 am. Everyone is invited. You may also join us online by dialing 848-777-1212. When prompted put in 1431434#. For more info, call Mary Kennedy at 954-290-1194. We will be sharing from Romans with Arthur Cholakis facilitating.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

The Blessing of the Animals will take place on Wednesday, October 4th—the Feast of Saint Francis Assisi - at 5:30 pm in the Chapel parking lot. All animals are welcome, provided they are leashed or caged and in the control of their human while on the property. Pizza will be served (to the humans) after the Blessing. As an expression of gratitude for the pets that enrich our lives, you are encouraged to bring food or new pet items to be donated to the Humane Society of Broward County.

RESPECT LIFE

October is Respect Life Month and we usually have a Baby Shower. This year we will have a special collection instead of the Baby Shower. On October 7 & 8, 2023 (at each Mass) there will be designated envelopes in the pews for Respect Life. Please be generous. This is an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of God’s children, born or unborn, and their parents. “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.” (Jeremiah 1:5) If giving a check, please make it out to St. Sebastian Church. Your donation is greatly appreciated. THANK YOU SO MUCH! Carole Duksta, Respect Life Representative.

PRAYER TO AVERT HURRICANES Father, all the elements of nature obey your commands. Protect us and all your people during this season of storms and hurricanes. Calm our fears and help us prepare our hearts as well as our homes. Help us see you in all we may encounter, and help us to minister to each other in your name. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

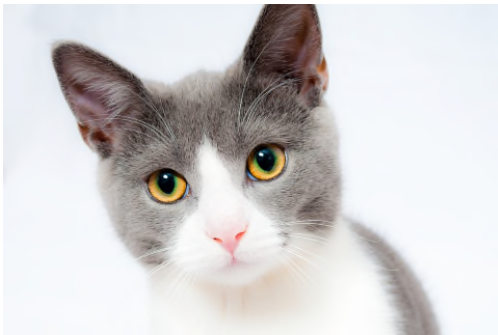
Have a Blessed Week!

# Blessing of the Animals

**In Honor of St. Francis of Assisi**

**Wednesday, October 4th at 5:30 pm**

**in the Chapel parking lot.**



**All pets - and their humans -  
are welcome!**

**(Please be sure all animals are leashed/caged so there's no "quarreling" among them).**

**As an expression of gratitude  
for the pets who enrich our lives, all are encouraged  
to bring pet food or new pet items which will be  
donated to the Humane Society of Broward County.**



**PIZZA**

**will be served  
(to the humans!) following  
the Blessing.**

